

CONTRIBUTION OF INDIAN WOMEN TO SOCIAL REFORM

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Introduction:

In our society, Women play an important role from birth till death. Women are the primary caretakers of house hold things along with children and elders at home. Women has been a strength of family structure as she takes care of all prime activities and everything at home and works nonstop for wellbeing of everyone in her family. Women play multiple role in her life as daughter, sister, wife, in-laws etc. and it has been seen over time that women discharge her duty at best in broader interest of her family in all her roles successfully. In India, women are worshiped goddess and symbolized to "Shakti" strength. In a male dominated society, the ability of a woman is seen as less than that man. Now a day's women are going beyond household's works and contributing big time in every fields for wellbeing of their family, society and country. Their present contribution in every field as education, medicine, research, engineering, military and other fields are commendable.

Keywords:

Primary Caretakers, Multiple Role, Important, Household's, Contribution, Population, Indian Culture, Country, Human Resource & Partner Etc.

Women in different roles

Women are the pioneers of our family, society and country. Indian culture attaches great importance for women, comprising half of population of country. According to a report of secretary general of United Nations, women constitute 50% of human resources, the greatest human resource next to man having great potentiality. Women are the key to sustainable development and quality of life in the family. The varieties of role the women assume in the family are those of wife, leader, administrator, manager of family income and last but not the least important the mother.

As a wife:

Woman is man's helpmate, partner and comrade. She sacrifices her personal pleasure and ambitions, sets standard of morality, relieves stress and strain, tension of husband, and maintains peace and order in the household. Thereby she creates necessary environment for her male partner to think more about the economic upliftment of family. She is the source of inspiration to man for high endeavour and worth achievements in life. She stands by him in all the crises as well as she shares with him all successes and attainments. She is the person to whom he turns for love, sympathy, understanding, comfort and recognition. She is the symbol of purity, faithfulness and submission and devotion to her husband.

Women as an Administrator and Leader of the Household:

A well-ordered disciplined household is essential to normal family life. The woman in the family assumes this function. She is the chief executive of an enterprise. She assigns duties among family members according to their interest and abilities and provides resources in-term of equipment and materials to accomplish the job. She plays a key role in the preparation and serving of meals, selection and care of clothing, laundering, furnishing and maintenance of the house. As an administrator, she organizes various social functions in the family for social development. She also acts as a director of recreation. She plans various recreational activities to meet the needs of young and old members of the family.

As a Mother:

The whole burden of child bearing and greater part of child rearing task are carried out by the woman in the family. She is primarily responsible for the child's habit of self-control, orderliness, industriousness, theft or honesty. Her contacts with the child during the most formative period of his development sets up his behaviour pattern. She is thus responsible for the maintenance of utmost discipline in the family.

She is the first teacher of the child. She transmits social heritage to the child. It is from mother that the child learns the laws of the race, the manner of men, moral code and ideals. The mother, because of her intimate and sustained contact with the child, she is able to discover and nurture child's special traits aptitudes and attitudes which subsequently play a key role in the shaping of his personality.

As a mother she is the family health officer. She is very much concerned about the physical wellbeing of every member of the family, the helpless infant, the sickly child, the adolescent youth, and senescent parent. She organizes the home and its activities in such a way so that each member of the family has proper food, adequate sleep and sufficient recreation. She made the home a place of quite comfortable and appropriate setting for the children through her talent. Besides, she cultivates taste in interior design and arrangement, so that the home becomes an inviting, restful and cheerful place. The mother is the central personality of the home and the family circle. All the members turn to her for sympathy, understanding and recognition. Woman devotes her time, labour and thought for the welfare of the members of the family. For the unity of interacting personalities, man provides the temple woman provides the ceremonies and the atmosphere.

Women as work:

The woman performs the role of wife, partner, organizer, administrator, director, re-creator, disburser, economist, mother, disciplinarian, teacher, health officer, artist and queen in the family at the same time. Apart from it, woman plays a key role in the socio-economic development of the society. Modern education and modern economic life use to compel woman more and more to leave the narrow sphere of the family circle and work side by side for the enrichment of society. She can be member of any women's organisation and can launch various programmes like literacy programme such as adult education, education for disadvantaged girls etc.

The purpose of introducing such literacy programme is to raise the society as education enables women to respond to opportunities, to challenge their traditional roles and to change their life circumstances. Education is the most important instrument for human resource development. Women are the key to sustainable development and quality of life. So they should be members of community centre or club to disseminate knowledge about handicraft, cottage industries, food preservation and low cost nutritious diet to people belonging low socio economic status for their economic upliftment. They should act as leaders of the society to raise voice against women violence, exploitation in household as well as in work place, dowry prohibition superstition and other social atrocities.

They should be member of religious institution to deliver spiritual speech to adolescent boys and girls in order to eliminate juvenile delinquency problem from the society. In addition they have pivotal role in pre and post marital counselling for adolescent girl regarding sexual transmitted disease. AIDS and other infectious diseases. They are supposed to create awareness about Human rights, women and child rights, credit facility of bank, different immunization programmes to low socio economic status people of the society.

Moreover it is the women who have sustained the growth of society and moulded the future of nations. In the emerging complex social scenario, women have a vital role to play in different sectors. They can no longer be considered as mere harbingers of peace but are emerging as the source of power and symbol of progress.

Women for social reform & education fields indeed, the number of phenomenal women who have made their contribution to uplifting Indian society is endless. So many women work day in and day out for social reform. Many names go unheard. These unsung heroics are has big contribution to transform the face of the country. So in this article, we bring you the stories of some of them. Surpassing every hurdle, overcoming all the obstacles, here is a list of the top 10 most influential women in India. Savitribai Phule: Savitribai Phule happens to be India's first female teacher. She started a school for girls and the 'Native Library' and she became stepping stone for various other girls in India to pursue education.

Asima Chatterjee:

Asima Chatterjee the first woman to be awarded a Doctor in Science by an Indian University in the year 1944. She is the first woman to be elected as the General President of the Indian Science Congress, a premier institute in scientific research.

Meghna Ghai:

Cinema has the power to transform masses. It is the most powerful medium of communication in any society. Meghna Ghai is taking strides in improving cinema education in India, which employs many people including numerous women in India.

Chandraprabha Saikiani:

Chandraprabha started Asam Pradeshik Mahila Samity which is currently running as well. Also, ChandraprabhaSaikiani Centre for Women Studies was opened in 2009 by Tezpur University.

Vimla Kaul :

Vimla Kaul, at the age of 80 years is going all out and providing education to children in a small village Madanpur Khadar, Delhi. For the past 20 years, she has been continuing with this educational endeavor.

Shukla Bose:

Shukla Bose is bridging all the gaps, be it gender disparity, economic disparity or any kind of difference for women in society. Today up to 1,600 students are attending Parikrma for education and self-dependence. Indeed Shukla Bose is an inspiration for all Indians.

Mahadevi Verma:

Mahadevi Verma is a prominent writer, poet, and educationist in India. She has added unparalleled joy to the childhood of so many people in India.

Durgabai Deshmukh:

Durgabhai Deshmukh propagated Gandhi's ideas and educated countless women by training them in various skills such as weaving and stitching for women being self-dependent.

Mukti Dagli :

Mukati Dagli is very empathic towards visually impaired girl child and started Mukta SevaKunj. It is a non-profit school for visually impaired women to provide them training as beauticians, chefs, electrical engineers etc. Her idea of education and learning is not limited to only studies. Her idea is based on true empowerment and social reform.

Kumari Shibulal:

Kumari Shibulal started Shibulal Family Philanthropic Initiative (SFPI). Under this initiative, they began offering scholarships to the girl students for education. Her this initiative has brought a big change for women on society.

Benefits of Female Education in India:

If the nation's women were educated, the entire generation would be educated, resulting in the growth of the country. Furthermore, educating women's leads to several changes and a greater understanding of concepts.

The following are some of the advantages of female education:

Social advancement: women's education enables women's to overcome societal concerns and difficulties. The Kothari Commission of 1968 supported education as a tool for social advancement. India can achieve its goal of social development through educating women's.

Improved living standards: Education automatically increases a woman's work opportunities. A well-educated woman has a higher chance of getting a decent career and a better quality of life.

Strengthening democracy:

Education increases women's attention, which leads to more political participation and so to the strengthening of democracy. They might defend their rights by

Mobilizing. Women's Education-Welfare Programs

India has done very well in delivering education to its inhabitants. The national literacy rate is 73.2 percent, with 59 percent of women literate. In India, the government has introduced several assistance initiatives to encourage women's education.

The following are some welfare programs:

1. BetiPadhao and BetiBachao-On January 22, 2015, the Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao social movements, known for women's empowerment, were started. The program's goal is to eliminate female feticide and provide women with an adequate education.
2. Hostels for Working Women-Working women's Hostels were founded to provide a working environment that incorporates accommodation amenities in order for women to have greater employment options.
3. Training and Employment Assistance Program (STEP)-These programs give enough knowledge and empower women to be self-employed or become entrepreneurs in a variety of fields. This program is accessible to women over the age of 16.
4. Mahila-E-Haat (Mahila-E-Haat)- The Ministry of Women's and Child Development introduced the Mahila program in 2016. It provides a forum for female entrepreneurs and small-business owners to showcase or sell their products and services.
5. SABLA-The Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Employment of Adolescent Girls (RGSEAG), often known as SABLA, was launched by the Government of India on April 1, 2011. It intends to provide meals and nutritional components.
6. Swadhar Greh-The Union Ministry of Women's and Child Development developed the SwadharGreh initiative in 2002. The program provides unassisted women with housing, food, medical attention, and clothes. Women who have been abandoned by their families and women who have survived a calamity are therefore provided with basic necessities.
7. Scheme for a One-Stop-Shop-The Ministry of Women's and Child Development developed the One-stop Centre initiative on April 1, 2015, using the "Nirbhaya" budget. The system provides psychological services, legal requirements, police assistance, housing, and food to victims of violence in both public and private settings.
8. Puraskar to Nari Shakti- The Ministry of Women's and Child Development has launched the Nari Shakti Puraskar program to recognize and empower women by honoring them for their outstanding contributions to society.

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